

REMARKS

In the Office Action the Examiner noted that claims 1-20 were pending in the application and the Examiner rejected all claims. By this Amendment, various claims have been amended. Thus, claims 1-20 are pending in the application. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 3, 8-10, 12-14 and 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. By this Amendment, the claims have been amended in accordance with the points raised by the Examiner in the rejection. It is submitted that all claims, as amended, meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, the Examiner withdrew the prior rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 based on Kikinis, and on pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 as anticipated by newly cited U.S. Patent 6,633,759 to Kobayashi.

The Present Invention

The present invention, as set forth, for example, in claim 1, as amended, is directed to a portable electronic viewer system. This system includes a portable server division, that can be carried in a container by a user, transmitting and receiving book-type contents having page-by-page information containing at least either images or characters. A portable viewer division that can be carried by the user carrying said portable server division, displays the book-type contents transmitted from the portable server division page-by-page. The portable server division includes means for converting a data file into an intermediate data file constituted by a part of information in an image in which a page constitutes a unit. The portable server division also includes means for transferring the intermediate data file so converted to the portable viewer division.

The present invention seeks to provide in place of a notebook-type personal computer or a PDA, a portable electronic viewer system which can satisfy both the demand for portability and the demand for a large volume of contents. To meet this demand, the present invention provides a portable server and a portable viewer so that the storage function of the portable viewer division can be reduced and the portability and cost of the portable viewer division can be improved and reduced, respectively, as described at page 3, lines 31-35 of the specification. Further, by converting the data file into the intermediate data file, the load of the transmission from the portable server division to the portable viewer division can be greatly reduced. The intermediate data file is described, for example, at page 4, lines 20-32, page 11, lines 12-19 and in the description of Fig. 8 at page 12, line 2 to page 14, line 3 of the specification.

U.S. Patent 6,633,759 to Kobayashi

The Kobayashi reference discloses a mobile communication device which includes a unit for establishing a wireless link for wireless communication with an external device. Kobayashi discloses a PC (PC1) which the Examiner alleges to correspond to the claimed portable server division. Kobayashi also discloses a cellular phone 2 which the Examiner alleges to correspond to the claimed portable viewer division. The PC1 and the cellular phone 2 are connected via a wireless link.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 Patentably Distinguish Over the Prior Art

As indicated above, the Examiner takes the position that the PC1 in Fig. 9 corresponds to the claimed portable server division, while the cellular phone 2 in Fig. 9 corresponds to a portable viewer division. However, applicants submit that a cell phone can be considered to display book-type contents "page-by-page." In contrast, the claimed invention is directed to a viewer in which a full page of text is shown to a user at one time. Such a page-by-page display is not possible with a cell phone.

Further, in Kobayashi, the transmission speed is too low to read the contents of a book on a page-by-page basis. For example, when the content of a document of a PDF file is to be transmitted at a transmission rate of 16 Mbps, if, as in Kobayashi, the content is not converted into an intermediate data file, it takes about one second to transmit the content of about 20 pages. However, in order for a human being to be able to browse the entire content without noticing the rewriting time, the displayed time must be shortened to within approximately 0.3 seconds. If the contents are not converted into intermediate data, the displayed pages will be difficult to read because a space is inserted between adjacent pages when the content is to be scrolled or when the content is to be read page-by-page.

Referring to the specific claim language of claim 1, it is submitted that Kobayashi does not teach or suggest the claimed portable electronic viewer system which comprises:

- a portable server division, that can be carried in a container by a user, transmitting and receiving book-type contents having page-by-page information containing at least either images or characters; and

- a portable viewer division, that can be carried by the user carrying said portable server division, displaying said book-type contents transmitted from said portable server division page-by-page;

- said portable server division including:

- means for converting a data file into an intermediate data file constituted by a part of information in an image in which a page constitutes a unit; and

- means for transferring the intermediate data file so converted to said portable viewer division.

Therefore, it is submitted that claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

Referring to claim 4, it is submitted that Kobayashi does not teach or suggest the claimed portable server division "for storing book-type contents having page-by-page information containing at least either images or characters, and transmitting said book-type contents to a portable viewer division wirelessly, said portable server division and said portable viewer division being capable of being carried by a single user." Therefore, it is submitted that claim 4 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

Referring to claim 5, it is submitted that Kobayashi does not teach or suggest the claimed "portable viewer division , that can be carried in a container by a user, for displaying book-type contents having page-by-page information containing at least either images or characters which are sent wirelessly from a portable server division page-by-page, said portable server division and said portable viewer division being capable of being carried by the user." Therefore, it is submitted that claim 5 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and includes all the features of that claim plus additional features which are not taught or suggested by Kobayashi. Therefore, it is submitted that claim 2 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

Rejections of Claims 3 and 6-20

On pages 4-13 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 3 and 6-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over various combinations of Kobayashi, U.S. Patent 6,553,410 to Kikinis, U.S. Patent 6,119,135 to Helfman, U.S. Patent 6,477,579 to Kunkel et al., U.S. Patent 6,601,108 to Marmor, U.S. Patent 6,728,785 to Jungck and U.S. Patent 4,734,920 to Betts.

Claims 3 and 6-20, depend directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and include all the features of that claim plus additional features which are not taught or suggested by the prior art. Further, none of the additional references relied on by the Examiner teach or suggest the features of the present claimed invention as set forth in independent claims 1, 4 or 5. Therefore, it is submitted that claims 3 and 6-20 patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Summary

It is submitted that none of the references, either taken alone or in combination teach the present claimed invention. Thus, claims 1-20 are deemed to be in a condition suitable for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and an early notice of allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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